

Work Task C2:	Brown-Headed Cowbird Trap Assessment
Partners:	Havasu National Wildlife Refuge Bill Williams National Wildlife Refuge Alamo Lake State Wildlife Area Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation)
Point of Contact:	John Swett, LC-2320 (702) 293-8574
Purpose:	Evaluate brown-headed cowbird (BHCO) control program.
Conservation Measures:	MRM4
Long-term Goals:	Post-trap monitoring will continue until BHCO population numbers and/or parasitism rates approach pre-trap numbers. These data will enable Reclamation to determine potential BHCO trapping intervals when such control measures are deemed necessary to protect LCR MSCP covered species, especially southwestern willow flycatcher.
FY05 Estimate:	Estimated FY05 costs are approximately \$80,000, including lower Colorado Regional staff oversight. These costs are for continued monitoring. Reclamation's Denver Technical Service Center (TSC) is conducting this evaluation.
Project Description:	From 1998-2001, Reclamation implemented a BHCO control program in accordance to the 1997 Biological Opinion on routine operations and maintenance of the lower Colorado River. BHCO traps were placed at Havasu National Wildlife Refuge (1998 only), Alamo Lake State Wildlife Area (Arizona), and the Bill Williams National Wildlife Refuge. Trapping was suspended after the 2001 breeding season and success was monitored from 2002-2004. BHCO populations have not reached pre-trap numbers and parasitism rates for host species have remained low. Monitoring will continue to determine how long trapping can be effective before BHCO population numbers and/or parasitism rates approach pre-trap levels.
Accomplishments to date:	Trapping was conducted from 1998-2001. The TSC produced a report on post-trap monitoring for 2002-2004.